

SIGNAL CENTER USE ONLY
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TO: FBIS/LONDON. 4

REF: AB237 4

cc: C/FCS

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1. AGREE THAT THIRTEEN MONITORS SOUNDS A BIT RICH FOR OUR BLOOD. THE FCS COVERAGE AND STAFFING PROJECTIONS FOR THE REMOTE OPERATION SHOULD BE REGARDED AS A PRIORITIZED SHOPPING LIST, IF YOU LIKE, OF AVAILABLE SOURCES WHICH WE BELIEVE COULD MERIT COVERAGE, RATHER THAN AS A FIRM PRESCRIPTION FOR COVERAGE AND STAFFING THAT MUST BE FOLLOWED TO THE LETTER. 4

2. AS YOU KNOW, WE HAD BEEN THINKING MORE IN TERMS OF SIX OR, AT MOST, EIGHT MONITORS FOR THE REMOTE OPERATION AND ASSOCIATED MUSLIM WORLD COVERAGE TO BE CENTERED IN LONDON. WE CONTINUE TO HOPE THAT SOME RECRUITS WILL HAVE CAPABILITY IN MORE THAN ONE OF THE DESIRED LANGUAGES, SINCE MANY ARE OF THE SAME LINGUISTIC FAMILY, AND OF COURSE WE'VE ALSO NURTURED THE UNSPOKEN EXPECTATION THAT WE WOULD BE ABLE TO CAPITALIZE TO SOME EXTENT BY THE MUSLIM WORLD EFFORT BEING INTEGRATED WITH BBC'S ESTABLISHED MONITORING EFFORTS. 4

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3. I KNOW FULL WELL HOW DIFFICULT THE RECRUITING TASK IS LIKELY TO BE AND IT MAY BE THAT THE RANGE OF LANGUAGE/DIALECT PROBLEMS COULD EVENTUALLY FORCE A CHANGE IN OUR ESTIMATES, BUT AT THIS TIME WE DO NOT CONTEMPLATE MORE THAN EIGHT MONITORS. HOWEVER, REALIZE IT'S RATHER MISLEADING FOR US TO TALK ABOUT POSITIONS WHEN BBC WILL BE TALKING ABOUT CASH. SO, WHILE WE'D LIKE THE BBC ESTIMATE DRAWN UP ON THE BASIS OF SIX-EIGHT MONITORS, WE'D ALSO LIKE AN INDICATION OF HOW MUCH MORE IT WOULD COST TO UP THE ANTE TO TEN OR THIRTEEN. THESE NEED ONLY BE ILLUSTRATIVE FIGURES, NO NEED TO WRITE THEM INTO A PROPOSAL. Y

4. RECRUITING AND ASSUMPTION OF COVERAGE SHOULD ADHERE TO THE FCS PRIORITIES AS CLOSELY AS AVAILABILITY OF LINGUISTS WILL PERMIT. BELIEVE EFFORTS INITIALLY SHOULD BE CONCENTRATED ON ITEMS "AFGHANISTAN" THROUGH "IRANIAN INTERNATIONAL" (TAB B OF ATTACHMENTS TO FCS 18 APRIL MEMO); OTHER COVERAGE CAN BE ADDRESSED AFTER WE SEE ESTIMATES AND SIZE OF CAPABILITY THEY WILL PROVIDE. Y

5. AGREE WITH [] THAT MANDARIN IS NOT PRACTICAL IN ISOLATION AND SHOULD BE DROPPED FROM LIST. Y

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6. BBC SHOULD PROVIDE ESTIMATED COSTS FOR ONE YEAR AT FULL
 STAFFING AS NOTED IN REF. RVW 23MAY86 ORG ALL CONFIDENTIAL. 25X1

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